ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



CHECK THAT DATE

SUN. May 1



Prizes

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ST.PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

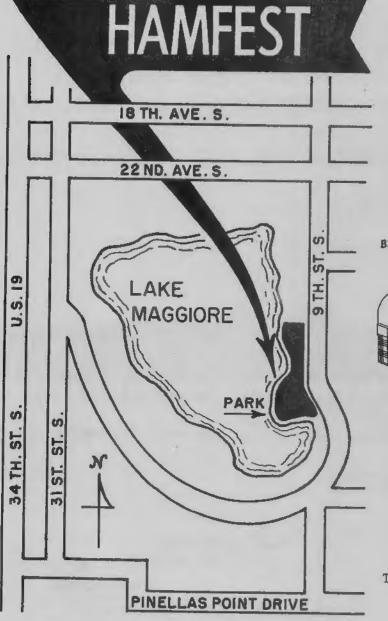


TIME: 10:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

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SPARC GAP

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MAY 6th. 1977

RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS

818 - 4th Street North, St. Petersburg, Fla.

*** PROGRAK***

Our program for the May 6th meeting will be a short film on disaster operation by the Red Cross. The program will be presented by John Komp WB4YTY, and the speaker will be Dayton Saltzman, Director of the Red Cross Disaster activities. This is a very important program as it will show the great necessity for the communications during disasters.

At our April meeting we had 44 members and guests present. The chair welcomed the guests at our meeting. The speaker this meeting was Al Friend ~ K4CF, who is associated with the Florida Power Corpn. and is presently at the Crystal River project. Al has been a member of SPARC for a number of years.

Al showed some of the most interesting slides of the project, along with an explanation of each slide. Al brought us right up to date inasmuch as the plant went on 100% power output this very day.

The membership wishes to thank Al Friend - K4CF for giving us his time and sharing his experiences with us. It was very well received and the membership gave Al a tremendous applause.

The chair called for a doughnut and coffee break

At 9:30 P.M. the meeting was called back to order so that the business part of the meeting could be carried out.

Minutes of the last meeting was read by our Sec'y and approved by the membership.

Frank Ryll W4VIP read the financial standing of the club and it was approved by the membership.

A letter was read to the meeting from Fran Foley W4BIL acknownledging receipt and her appreciation of the life membership in SPARC for which she was elected to receive by the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club.

SICK_LIST

Irene Farran XYL - WB4ULO was hospitalized for several weeks in order to stablize her serious diabetic condition. Happy to report at this writing that she is now home and doing nicely.

Walter Wentworth - WAPWB has been hospitalized for the second time with a rare illness, a nose bleeding, and very difficult to stop.

DONT FORGET OUR HAM - FEST MAY 1st 1977 FROM 10:00 A,M. to 3:00 P.M. BRING YOUR LUNCH AND ENJOY A PICNIC LUNCH

de WB4LWB

SPARC Repeater News

The Festival of States activities have come and gone. Our participation this year was greater than ever, as we assisted with the Hurricane Classic ocean power boat race for the first time. The night parade was March 29 and the day parade was April 2nd. On both these we used 3 radio channels. The SPARC repeater 147.66/147.06 was used for emergency medical service with first aid stations. The club simplex frequency 146.49 was used with parade marshals. For the first time we were able to use 1 meter equipment, 223.5MHz, on all the courtesy cars and at the Parade Control center in Bayfront Towers.

On the Night Parade we experienced interference between our two 2-meter circuits at Parade Control. Thanks to Mr. George Knapp, W4SFT, city Communications Chief, we were able to borrow resonant cavities for use on these two circuits which eliminated mutual interference during the Day Parade.

The 1½ meter circuit worked great, but we had a few distant stations check in because we were operating on the national simplex frequency. Next year we hope all units will be equipped with the club simplex frequency 223.66.

As near as we can determine, we had 64 Radio Amateurs in these events as follows: W4APV WB4AIZ W4CF K4CVC W4CSH WB4DWU WB4EEE W4EGM WA4ESX WA4FEN WA4FPS WA4FNX WA4FNY WB4FVN WA4FYR WB4WSW WB4FYS WB4FYU WA4GCH W4GPL K5IHH WB4IKK WB4INB W4IRA K4ISS WA4KCR WA4KDL K4KE WB4ZPU WA4KNI WB4KSJ K4KXC WA4LMQ WB4MHQ W4MIM WA4MJT K4NAN WA4RQQ WB4OAT W4OJH WA4OST WB4OYZ WB4PNV K8PXM WA4QGV WB4UFO WA4RJO WA4ROX WA4SEB K4SCL K4RXO K4TH WA4TJG WA4TPG WA4TUM W1UEF WB4UUM WA4VPG WA4VRP WA4WGO WA4WKO WA4WOU WB4YDA WA4ZDY. I hope I didn't leave out anybody or foul up too many call signs: My heartfelt thanks to all those who participated and also to those who gave us a clear channel. Special thanks goes to W4CPL, W4APV and WA4FYR for their planning and coordination efforts.

The Hurricane Classic proved interesting, communications-wise. The boats used their marine radios on channel 22 (161.7MHz) for contact with Race Control in Bayfront Towers. Several of the boats had radio trouble -- either couldn't hear or couldn't transmit well. Those that were working managed to interefere with each other a lot. By contrast, our SPARC Repeater circuit was perfection. I got the impression that my captain was a little resentful of the fact that my little toy-like hand-held portable was able to get the message through clearly and easily at all times while his ship radio, over 10 times more powerful, expensive, and professionally maintained, was having trouble. Oh well, you can't begin to explain to the unitiated the amount of professionalism and pride that goes into maintenance of our amateur equipment and self-training of our operators that enables us to do a good job. If the marine captains had one-tenth the training in use of their equipment as we amateurs have in use of ours, they would not have interferred with each other nearly so much.

73 de K4SCL





AMATEUR K4IJN

MARINE CB - CH. 13 KEN-5423

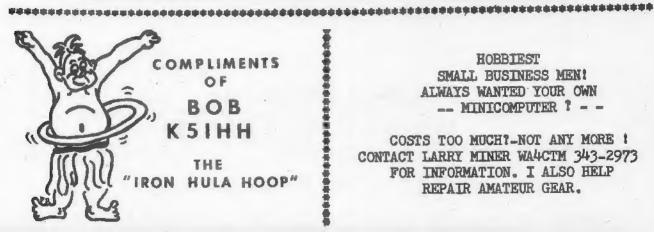


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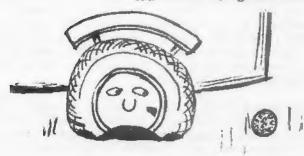
TELEPHONE 360-6907

JUST LISTENING



walfield, JOE hoom't heard that colfing is supposed to be good exercise. When his golf cart blew a tire he called, via the regeater, WadTJG to have her call the Pro-Shop on the phone and have them send another cart.

Well = - he did get all the way to the 2nd fairway.



Hi Pal! Got a hole in one!!!

WAA KCR, Frank our hard working net manager keeps track of the net check ins while loboring over a sink full of dirty dishes.

"Half the people like to work and the other half don't, or maybe it's the other way 'round."

WB4 LXH, Ken was working on his car and accidently out his fingers on the moving fan.

WARON, Jim requested someone on the repeater to make a phone call to the KYL of a friend. He was in a boat that had been fog bound and needed her to meet them at the dock. The boat — just a 600 tanker.

VE3CBG, Ed gave the repeater team an exercise in emergency procedure when he asked for assistance to find a trailerpark. He didn't know where he was or where he wanted to go. He was helped by KAISS, WAATJG, WAGPL, WBAPNV, KASCL, WANNU. Fred WANNU, thought to call the police to locate the mobile park, that wasn't listed in a phone book. This took 1 hour and 15 min.

at seems to me -... there are three types of happily married couples: the ones who make things happen; the ones who watch things happen; and the ones who don't know what's happening.

UNCLE BURT

SPARC-GAP

Memoirs of CATHY SOEHL-W4BAV



As Catherine T. Hickman, born in Baltimore, Md., Feb. 9, 1904, was just an ordinary growing gal, interested in music, dancing, games and having a good time.

In 1927, met W3BF-Dick Seeds, who "triggered" my interest in amateur radio. I attempted to learn the code on my own by dots and dashes so that, after we were married in 1928, moved to Philadelphia and attended RGA, the dits & dahs "got me", as had to break myself of considering how many dots & dashes in each letter sent. After a day at the office, the night course at RCA, found the code interesting but, when the theory session came, was pretty well exhausted & could not grasp the instructions. Hence did not complete the course.

May 1933, we moved to Florida & Dick became W4CZZ & when he got on 10-meter phone band, I really enjoyed the QSOs & made many friends. However, it was not until 1953 that I joined the code class of W4TDK-Naomi Spence & passed my Novice License, receiving the call of WN4BAV. In 1954, passed the Technicians; both licenses being passed at the 13 wpm rate but, though I have tried many times for the General, get nervous when in the FGC Office. The last time, the Inspector told me I would have passed it three times, had I not been weak on my numbers.

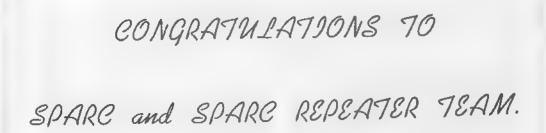
My OM-Dick & I were active in the SPARC (St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club) & started compiling & publishing the SPARC-GAP (Jan. 1954), which has grown from a 1 memographed page to a 4 to 5 page offset bulletin.

There were only 6 licensed YLs in St. Petersburg, who organized the SPARCYLS. So when SPARC was invited to sponsor the S.E. Division ARRL Convention in 1955, the little band of SPARCYLS bravely decided to have a YLRL 4th District Convention, in conjunction with the ARRL Convention. To the best of my knowledge, we were the first YL Club in Florida & held the first 4th District YLRL Convention.

Dick passed away in 1955, so it was not until Feb. 19, 1959 that I experienced the thrill of my first contact on 6-meters, using a Black Widow Transceiver. From then on, when I was not working, had "a ball" when the band was opened working DX, passing traffic & just general ragchewing every night. After considerable time the gang got me interested in certificate hunting.

Feb. 1965, I took early retirement from the St. Petersburg Times, where I worked in the Accounting Dept. for 20 years &, in November married W2HJM-Bill Soehl (now W4GHR) & moved to Sarasota. Due to a large house, lots of company, traveling, etc., my radio activities have been greatly curtailed. When possible, my CM-Bill gets me on the Floridora Net, Tuesdays at 9 AM EST-3933 kHz & the Southern Section of the Country Cousins, every night at 10 PM, 3970 kHz; then I N.C. the Hoot Owl Net Saturdays at midnight on 50.7 Mc. Anyone talking to a Hoot Owl for one hour, after midnight, on Saturday, can be nominated & is eligible to receive a certificate & becomes a Hoot Owl.

Continued Page (5)





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OVER THE PHONE BEFORE SENDING
SOMEONE TO YOU.

IF I CAN SAVE YOU A SERVICE CHARGE NOW AND THEN, MAYBE YOU'LL REMEMBER ME WHEN SOME-THING HAPPENS THAT YOU CAN'T HANDLE.

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BE ITEMIZED - SO NO HIDDEN CHARGES.

•GEORGE HASELTINE•



SPARC - GAF

I work 6 & 2-meters (mostly 6, as 2-meters little activity), AM phone, using a Gonset G-50 (6 meters) & Gonset Communicator II (2-meters), with a 5-element Telrex beam (6-meters) & an 11-element beam (2-meters), 45 feet in the sir.

I am a member of SPARC; SPARCYLS; ARRL; YLRL; Sarasota Amateur Radio Assoc.; South African Womens Radio Club; Amateir Radio Editors Assoc.; Amateur Radio News Service; National Awards Hunter Club; Certificate Hunters Club; Amateur Radio Club of Florida; Georgia Peaches; CLARA (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Assoc.) & Order of Eastern Star (non ham organization. Hi!).

I attend all local Hamfests; have enjoyed YLRL Conventions: Chicago, Ill. 1957; Cambridge, Mass. 1960; Columbus, Ohio 1964; Denver, Colo. 1968 & hope to be present at L.A. in 1972. Attend the Southern Section of Country Cousins Jamboree every October, held in Tavares, Fla. & many QCWA luncheons, etc. with the OM, who is a member.

Offices held: SPARC - Charter Member

SPARC-GAP Editor 1954 thru 1962; Co-Editor 1963 thru 1965

Board of Director: 1956 & 1964

Vice-President: 1960

Certificate Custodian: 1964 & 1965

Historian: 1964 & 1965

Net Control SPARC-GAP Net: 1964 & 1965

SPARCYLS: Charter Member: Secty/Treas. 1954 thru 1956

President: 1957

YLRL: 4th District Chairman 1966

ARRL Asst. Director S.E. Division: 1968 & 1969

FLORIDORA YLS: Charter Member: President 1969; Publicity: 1966-67 & 70

SOUTHERN SECTION OF COUNTRY COUSINS: Secty/Treas. 1968 & 1969

Publicity Chrm. 1969

SMART #588

FLORIDA SKIP CORRESPONDENT: 1957 (when started) to date

Certificates: SPARC #1

Floridora #185 Screw Ball #1169 NAHC #89

CHC #1696 Confederate Rebel #364

Carnation #285 Slave #435 Cowbelle #76 Suncoast VHF #5

Sun City #20 Royal Order Hoot Ow1 #1237

Cowtown #152

Dawn Patrol #1 Moon Watchers #172 Junk Hunters #153 Psycho Net #8 Bull Frog #299

Buckeye Ragchewers #252

Rebel Net Hasty Nasty Net WAM (Worked all McBee) Rag Chewers Club

Knights at the Round Table #76

HAWK #185

5 Towns #156

All above certificates achieved on 6-meters; not easy from Florida

Awards: Pinellas County C.D.

YLRL Continuous Membership-15 years

SPARC Officers, etc.

Amateur Radio Achievement #2 Apricot Net Award of Merit

Florida Skip

Merit Award-Amateur Club of Florida #2

ARRL: OBS 1964 & 1965

OES 1965 & 1966

SPARC-GAP

SPARC REPEATER NET NEWS

The net chugged along through March with an average of 35 check-ins per session and a total of 1073 for the month. Top QNI goes to WA4QGV who was present for all 31 sessions. Net certificates have been earned by the following stations: W4APV, W4BNM, K4GBT, WB4LLN, W4MIM, WIMXT, W4OJH, K8PXM, WA4RQQ, WB4TJG, WB4TPG, WA4TUM, and WA4VPG. NTS liaison with QFN is being encouraged and we wish to thank K4SCL, K4TH, and K4NAN for acting as our representatives. Most of the 22 pieces of traffic that the net handled during the month came off of QFN. Net members must remember that the NCS is the absolute boss while the net is operating. Stations should not transmit unless they are requested to by NCS, or if they have emergency/priority traffic. See you at 6:30pm.

de WA4KCR NM

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 638 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT MARCH 24 1977 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Effective immediately the FCC has cancelled its program of mailing Novice examinations in bulk to qualified examiners. The FCC claims that the program has proven unsatisfactory and has imposed added burdens on the staff at Gettysburg, PA. FCC states that many exams are simply not being returned and many examiners appear to be requesting multiple tests just to have them on hand in case of future need. Volunteer examiners must now first conduct the Novice code test, and then file an application prior to administering each Novice written exam, as previously required. AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 637 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT MARCH 17 1977 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

As a continuing membership service, ARRL now has ready the latest chart showing all available 1 X 2 calls, as of April 1. The chart indicates that there are no more available K or W prefixes in the 4th call area, and no W prefixes left in the 6th call area. The chart may be obtained by sending a self addressed envelope with 24 cents postage addressed to Call Signs, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. AR

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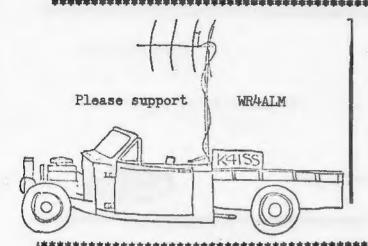
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